

Town of High River Library Board

MINUTES

May 17, 2022 at 7 pm

In attendance: Mary Zazelenchuk, Natacha Gougeon, Jim Graham, Karen Orser, Mai-Ann Sprung, Laura Byers, Lynne Thornton, Holly Ottewell
Virtual: Monique Durette, Pat Shorrock
Absent: Jenny Jones

1. Call to Order - Pat calls the meeting to order at 7:00pm
2. Approval of Agenda - Mai-Ann moves. Carried.
3. Approval of the amended minutes of April 19, 2022 meeting - Jim moves. Carried.
 - 3.1 Holly should be under regrets
4. Standing Committees (reports)*
 - 4.1 Finance and Planning Committee - no meeting occurred.
 - 4.2 Human Resources and Administration Committee - no meeting occurred.
 - 4.3 Marigold Board Meeting Report - formal report submitted.
5. Ad Hoc and external Reports
 - 5.1 Town of High River - no report, Jenny absent.
6. Librarian's Report
 - 6.1 Report - formal report submitted
 - Book Bike starting up with new improvements, will be located at various community spaces all summer
 - Summer camps will be participating in some of the library summer programming, potential pool visits also in the planning stages
 - Summer staff positions mostly filled
7. Old Business
 - 7.1 Staff vaccination policy discussion
 - Not feasible to continue supplying covid test kits when they are no longer free. Unvaccinated staff will have to source test kits. This follows the Vaccination Policy currently in place. Will revisit at September 2022 meeting.
 - 7.2 Digital Sign - no recent updates.

8. New Business

8.1 PLSB on June 21. Meeting time to move forward to 6:30 PM in order to accommodate 7 PM presentation.

8.2 Speaker – Laura Taylor, Deputy CEO, Marigold Library System

- Marigold formed in 1981. It was the first regional public library system in AB.
- Marigold is the third largest system in the province, serving 340,000 residents in an area of approximately 5000kms.
- High River had a huge part in forming Marigold as one of the founding members was from the area.
- Marigold not only shares resources between all system libraries, but also resources from all libraries through TRAC.
- Why do both the municipality and member libraries both pay Marigold? In order for Marigold to be able to be a massive resource for each public library (examples: collection management [acquisitions, cataloging, book processing, etc.], IT and networking support, providing individual support to managers with policy and government reporting when needed, library collections and applicable insurance, professional development, among many other services).
- COVID is affecting publishing: delays due to shortages of various materials, etc. which is leading to publishing dates getting pushed back and more.
- Marigold Book deposits - in locations where it's too small for a library, but there is a small site similar to how a little free library is run.
- Marigold mail service - if patrons cannot make it into the library for a qualifying reason they can have materials mailed free of charge, with a return label.
- Marigold lending lockers - places where patrons who place holds can pick them up in locations where there is no library location (e.g. Bragg Creek)
- Community libraries - in hamlets that are too small for municipal boards, Marigold assists with the physical location.
- PLSB (Public Library Services Board) - Alberta government division of Dept of Municipal Affairs that all public libraries report to.
- New HQ in Strathmore - old 1950s building was not large enough to provide adequate services as the system saw a tripling of memberships.
- Marigold has created a new information package outlining where your municipality's investment is used and why it is more than worth it to be part of the system.
- Marigold provides \$1,000 outside of other transactions for IT and network support to all libraries alone.
- Digital content is provided through Marigold. This content is very expensive and prices on eBooks, audiobooks, etc. continue to rise significantly.
- Marigold also provides the Conference for library staff and board members as a form of professional development.
- The use of public libraries grows every year and it is important that key stakeholders share this information to combat funding reductions.

- The Board can support Marigold by advocating for libraries to council and the community at large.
- Provincial funding is not changing at the same rate as inflation, has held for 4 years
- The Marigold system is working to build more relationships and provide more access to Indigenous people and residents living on reserves.

9. Correspondence - no new correspondence.

10. Adjournment - Lynne moves to adjourn at 8:27pm

Next Meeting June 21st **6:30pm**

Submitted by Holly Ottewell

Pat Shorrock, Chair